

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03409 181120Z

44

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 ACDA-10 MBFR-02 SAJ-01 L-02

PRS-01 NEA-06 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /072 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 854

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3139

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3409

LIMDIS

E.O. GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM

SUBJECT: BENELUX PAPER ON MBFR PROCEDURES

REF: USNATO 3396

1. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR MENZIES REFERRED TO BENELUX PAPER (REFTEL) ON MBFR PROCEDURES AT JULY 17 PERMREP LUNCH, AND POSED TWO QUESTIONS TO BELGIAN AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE. HE FIRST ASKED ABOUT THE PROVISION WHEREBY A DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE AD HOC GROUP WOULD SUSPEND CONTACTS WITH THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES. IN DISCUSSION, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT WHAT THE BELGIANS HAVE IN MIND IS ONLY AN INTERRUPTION OF CONTACTS WITH THE EAST ON THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE DISAGREEMENT AND NOT A TOTAL CESSATION OF ALL CONTACTS WITH THE EAST.

2. THE SECOND QUESTION CONCERNED THE PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG. DE STAERCKE SAID HE CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 03409 181120Z

BELIEVED THIS SUBJECT WAS WORTH DISCUSSING, THAT THERE WERE ARGUMENTS ON BOTH SIDES, AND THAT THE ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF THE BENELUX PAPER WAS TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT

THE BELGIANS THOUGHT THAT THE DUTIES OF THE CHAIRMAN
WOULD ONLY RELATE TO MATTERS WITHIN THE AD HOC GROUP;
HE WOULD HAVE NO ROLE IN EAST-WEST CONTACTS.
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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